< Midam,

You bid your treasurer on a time,
To give me reason for my rhyme ,
But since that time and that season,
He gave me neithei rhyme nor reason '

20th Nojeritbet A CASE OF PLAGUE AT COURT

There is much alarm in the Court because a page of the Lady Scroop, one of the ladies of the Queen's bedchamber, is dead of the plague in the keep at Windsor Castle It is expected that the Queen will remove within a day or two

28*th November* THE ARRAIGNMENT OF RICHARD HESKETH

This day Richard Hesketh, a Jesuit, was airaigned for having treasonably attempted to persuade Ferdmando Stanley, the new Earl of Derby, to revolt against the Queen

This man had come from Sir William Stanley and the Catholics abroad, being authorised to offer the Crown of England to the Earl of Derby He was instructed first to approach the Earl signifying to him in general that he had a message of importance to deliver from special friends of his, and to desire leave to utter it, and his promise of good security that he should incur no danger

Having received this promise and given mutual promise of fidelity and secrecy, he should declare in general that the message concerned the common good of all Christendom, especially of England, and in particular of the Earl If the Earl was content to hear, though drily and with small desire, he should name Sir William Stanley as having sent him, adding that there was another greater than he, and to know expressly whether the Earl would hear his message or no

It he were willing, then Hesketh was to offer him all the endeavour, services and helps that the Catholics could employ if he would accept and agree to the Catholic faith , but to be capable he must be a Catholic, and bind himself

to restore,
advance and perpetually maintain the Catholic faith in England
Let the Earl signify what help he needed and when, and by God's
help it would be provided 4000 or 5000 men might be sent
within seven or eight months He was not to fear strangers,
neither did the King of Spain now seek the Kingdom of England